## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

: 10/553,317

Applicant Filed

: Alfred R. Rudolph, et al. : September 26, 2006

TC/A.U.

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Examiner

: Ronald T. NIEBAUER

Docket No.

: 2697-120

Customer No.

: 06449

Confirmation No. : 1807

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

## **RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT**

## Dear Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated December 28, 2007, Applicants submit the following response:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.